

CERRITOS - Dozens of present and future entrepreneurs filled the Cerritos Park East community room on Wednesday for a Forum organized by Congresswoman Linda Sánchez.

The forum was a unique opportunity for different business owners from the region to network and learn from a panel of experts about how to access more capital, legal issues small businesses need to consider as they grow, and free services and government problem-solving that Congresswoman Sánchez can provide.

"I am pleased to have been able to provide the community with this educational forum," said Sánchez. "Small businesses are the backbone of this country, and I am working hard in Congress to provide both informational sessions like these as well as financial support at the federal level."

Many local residents were in attendance along with representatives from the U.S. Small Business Administration, Small Business Development Centers, and other business related-agencies. Alberto Alvarado, District Director of LA Small Business Administration Office, and Sheneui Sloan, Director of Economic Development for Small Business Development Centers participated in providing valuable information for those at the forum.

"It was good to be able to hear from residents about their concerns for their businesses," continued Sánchez. "I hope that this forum was beneficial to current and future small business owners. It is extremely important that we foster small businesses, as they provide for 75 percent of new jobs in America."

Congresswoman Sánchez serves on the Small Business Committee in the House of Representatives where she has worked hard to oppose cuts to the Small Business Administration in the most recent budget, citing the importance small businesses play in our communities.